

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/019737

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F9/46

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 817 018 A (SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 7 January 1998 (1998-01-07)	1-3,8,9, 11-15
A	page 7, line 14 - line 19 page 9, line 39 - line 41; table 1 page 13, line 9 - line 55; figure 14 -----	4-7,10
Y	WO 00/63776 A (KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V) 26 October 2000 (2000-10-26)	1-3,8,9, 11-15
A	abstract; figure 1 page 7, line 23 - line 32 -----	4-7,10
A	EP 0 798 638 A (HITACHI, LTD) 1 October 1997 (1997-10-01) column 5, line 25 - column 6, line 19; figure 1 column 8, line 36 - column 9, line 19 -----	4-7,10

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

2 May 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

19/05/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ross, C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/019737

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0817018	A	07-01-1998	US EP JP	6012081 A 0817018 A2 10124330 A		04-01-2000 07-01-1998 15-05-1998
WO 0063776	A	26-10-2000	US WO EP JP	6766508 B1 0063776 A2 1088269 A2 2002542536 T		20-07-2004 26-10-2000 04-04-2001 10-12-2002
EP 0798638	A	01-10-1997	CA EP JP JP US US US US	2200929 A1 0798638 A2 2904483 B2 9319597 A 6400819 B1 2003021228 A1 2002167903 A1 6337850 B1 5944778 A		28-09-1997 01-10-1997 14-06-1999 12-12-1997 04-06-2002 30-01-2003 14-11-2002 08-01-2002 31-08-1999